

Miquel de Moragas and Miquel Botella, Editors

The Keys to Success

*The social, sporting, economic
and communications impact of
Barcelona'92*

*Centre d'Estudis Olímpics i de l'Esport
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
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Thank you Barcelona. Thank you Catalonia. Thank you Spain. You've done it. These have been without a doubt the best Games in Olympic history. The effort of everybody —the Organizing Committee, the City of Barcelona, the Generalitat of Catalonia, the Government of Spain, as well as the Spanish Olympic Committee, the Superior Sports Council and numerous national and international enterprises— has made this great success possible. Barcelona will not be the same in the future. Nor will our sports be the same after the great victories achieved.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Their Majesties the King and Queen of Spain, Don Juan Carlos and Doña Sofía, and all of the Royal Family. They have been with us always, demonstrating in every moment their love for the Olympic idea and their enthusiasm for sport.

Thank you with all my heart to the thousands of volunteers. We are proud of you. You have given the best example of what the youth of our country is today.

I cannot forget the mass media, which has contributed by communicating the great success of this grand festival of sports and culture created by Pierre de Coubertin to all the regions of the world. Television too has taken a new step forward in its relations with sport.

But the main protagonists have been, as always, the athletes of the world. Your enthusiasm, your endeavours and your achievements symbolise that which is best about this truly universal festival of friendship and peace.

My acknowledgments to all the members of the International Olympic Committee, the International Federations and National Olympic Committees. Once again you have demonstrated the strength that unites us.

I now have the honour to present the President of the Organizing Committee and Mayor of Barcelona, Pasqual Maragall, with the Order of the Olympic Gold. He has deserved it.

Finally, then, today, August 9th, 1992, in the city of Barcelona, we declare closed the Games of the XXV Olympiad of the Modern Era.

In accordance with our tradition, I call the youth of the world to meet again four years from now, in 1996, in Atlanta, United States of America, to celebrate with us the Games of the XXVI Olympiad, the Centennial Games.

Thank you to all the world. Thank you Catalonia. Thank you Barcelona.

JOAN ANTONI SAMARANCH

President of the International Olympic Committee

Closing Speech of the Games of the XXV Olympiad,

Barcelona, 1992